

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8824

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5764

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, RH

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE ON SANCTIONS TIGHTENING (COST)

MEETING DECEMBER 19

REF: A. USUN 4933; B. STATE 284490

1. ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SANCTIONS TIGHTENING (COST)

BUT NETHERLANDS AND IRAN ATTENDED MEETING AT JAPANESE

MISSION DECEMBER 19. THE IRANIAN REP

HAS BEEN ORDERED BY HIS GOVERNMENT NOT TO PARTICIPATE

FURTHER IN COST, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE OF FAST-GROWING

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IRANIAN SENSITIVITY O CRITICISM OF HER OIL LINKS TO SOUTH

AFRICA. THE SWISS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE AND

HAVE CABLED FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

2. REGARDING A POSSIBLE COST QUESTIONNAIRE ON "THIRD-

COUNTRY LOOPHOLES" AS SUGGESTED BY THE US AT THE LAST

MEETING (REF A), THE UK (RELLIE) SAID THAT HIS GOVERN-

MENT WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN SUBMITTING CANDID ANSWERS TO COST BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF LEAKS. PERHAPS HMG COULD ANSWER "ONE OR TWO" OF THE FOUR QUESTIONS. NO OTHER GOVERNMENT HAD INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SUBJECT SO COST DECISIONS ON THE FINAL FORM AND ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE WERE PUT OFF UNTIL NEXT MEETING. SEVERAL MEMBERS NOTED THE RELATIVE HELPLESSNESS OF THEIR COUNTRIES TO BLOCK "THIRD-COUNTRY LOOPHOLES" IN ANY CASE.

3. THE UK THEN SUBMITTED A DOCUMENT ON TECHNICAL ANALYSIS OF RHODESIAN EXPORTS (POUCHED DEPT: ATT: ESCUDERO). THE US (GRAHAM) SUBMITTED INFORMATION ON THE SAME SUBJECT AS GIVEN IN STATE 298220 (NOTAL).

4. REGARDING A PUBLICITY FUNCTION FOR COST, THE US, BECAUSE OF PRIOR BRITISH OBJECTION, DID NOT PROPOSE ISSUANCE OF THE PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SAG NON-COMPLIANCE WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REF B. INSTEAD, THE US PROPOSED THAT COST MEMBERS ASK CAPITALS FOR SUGGESTIONS ON A PUBLICITY FUNCTION FOR COST. THE UK SUGGESTED THAT A NOTE TO THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE (WITH A REQUEST FOR A SUBSEQUENT PRESS RELEASE), DESCRIBING COST'S WORK ON THE TECHNICAL ANALYSIS OF RHODESIAN EXPORTS MIGHT BE A SUITABLE FIRST STEP.

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5. NEXT MEETING SET FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 17 AT USUN. AGENDA WILL INCLUDE
(A) RESULTS OF INITIAL COST QUESTIONNAIRE.
(B) ADVISABILITY OF SENDING QUESTIONNAIRE ON "THIRD COUNTRY LOOPHOLES".
(C) IDEAS FOR A PUBLICITY FUNCTION FOR COST, INCLUDING COMMENTS ON UKUN IDEA NOTED PARA 4 ABOVE.

6. COMMENT: UK UNEASINESS OVER POSSIBLE SENSITIVITY OF SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE WAS SHARED BY SOME OTHERS. US POINTED OUT THAT COST HAS CONSISTENTLY REGARDED SOUTH AFRICAN COMPLIANCE AS THE KEY TO EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS ON RHODESIA. THUS, SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE REPRESENTED LOGICAL NEXT STEP FOR COST. MISSION'S VIEW IS THAT CONTINUED US PUSHING EVENTUALLY WILL RESULT IN COST AGREEMENT, WITH MISGIVINGS, TO SEND OUT SECOND QUESTIONNAIRE. REGARDING DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSED PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SAG NON-COMPLIANCE WITH RHODESIA SANCTIONS (REF B), MISSION IS WILLING TO APPROACH UKUN AGAIN ON THE MATTER BEFORE JANUARY MEETING IF SITUATION WARRANTS AND DEPARTMENT DEEMS ADVISABLE. GUIDANCE REQUESTED ON THAT POINT AND ON BRITISH PUBLICITY SUGGESTION PARA 4.

7. IT IS PAINFULLY CLEARL THAT THE BRITISH NOW SEE
THEMSELVES AS A SEA-ANCHOR FOR COST AND HOPE TO SLOW
DOWN OR BLOCK ANY COST ACTIONS WHICH COULD FOCUS UNDUE
ATTENTION ON SOUTH AFRICA.
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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